

Regional Fact Sheet: Public Lands Operational Update

Overview: As wildfire conditions around Northern California and Northern Nevada remain dangerously high, many public lands around the Tahoe-Truckee region are closed. Please see below for area closures and operational modifications.

Elevated Fire Restrictions are in effect in all areas of the Tahoe Basin

- Elevated Fire Season Restrictions prohibit the burning of wood and charcoal on public or private property including residential properties, vacation/short-term rentals, campgrounds, resorts and other recreational areas throughout the Lake Tahoe/Truckee Region until the end of November or until rescinded, including all at California State Parks and USFS sites across the Tahoe Basin.
- Watch for and heed Red Flag fire warnings. When a Red Flag is in effect, all sources of outdoor open flame, including gas/propane/pellet grills and smokers on all private and public lands are banned throughout the Lake Tahoe/Truckee Region.
- Additionally, on all USFS lands all ignition sources are prohibited, including anything with a flame, until further notice.

These orders are in place to protect everyone during the current state of wildfire activity and limited fire response resources and will remain in place until further notice.

California State Parks:

Due to the current state wildfire crisis, the closure of neighboring USFS lands, and COVID-19 and its impacts on Parks personnel to support basic operations, the following are in place:

- Campfires and charcoal BBQs are banned on all park lands.
- Does not currently allow walk-ins at any campgrounds for the remainder of the season and will be closing all remaining campgrounds on October 1.
- This impacts Malakoff, Sugar Pine, DL Bliss, and Grover.
- All existing camping reservations made prior to today (September 10) will be honored through October 1, but no new reservations are being accepted at this time.
- Day use areas and trails remain open.

The District will continue to monitor conditions and may impose further restrictions and closures as necessary.

Nevada State Parks:

- Sand Harbor, Cave Rock and Spooner Lake are open.
 - Spooner Backcountry is open, however, portions of the Flume Trail and Tahoe Rim Trail are closed under the USFS order.
- Van Sickle Bi-State Park is closed until further notice.
- Information resources: <http://parks.nv.gov/about/public-notice>

US Forest Service:

Due to unprecedented and historic fire conditions throughout the state, the USDA Forest Service Pacific Southwest Region has **temporarily closed all eighteen National Forests** in California.

- The USFS closures are for the **Tahoe National Forest**, Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit, Eldorado National Forest, Klamath National Forest, Lassen National Forest, Mendocino National Forest, Modoc National Forest, Six Rivers National Forest, Plumas National Forest, Shasta-Trinity National Forest.
- Additionally, the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest has closed all lands in California while Nevada lands remain open.
- This decision will be re-evaluated daily as conditions change. For more information, visit www.fs.usda.gov/R5

The USFS Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit (LTBMU) manages 85 percent of the land of the Tahoe Basin and is part of the effort to combat historic fires and extreme fire behavior across California. To protect the public and firefighters. LTBMU asks all Californians and visitors to take these closures and evacuations seriously for their own safety and to allow firefighters to focus on suppressing these historic fires.

California Tahoe Conservancy:

The Conservancy has temporarily closed high-use Conservancy properties to protect the public and firefighters during this time of unprecedented and historic fire conditions.

- Van Sickle Bi-State Park (includes both California and Nevada sides of the park)
- Upper Truckee Marsh (except for Cove East area, accessed by Venice Drive)
- Eagle Rock
- Conservancy land at Elks Club Road
- [Visit the Conservancy website to view closure maps.](#)

The Conservancy continues to coordinate with the USDA Forest Service, Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit and other Basin partners to evaluate the public safety risk and will update its land closures as necessary.

Boat Launches: Boat ramps and marinas remain open and many are updating their hours of operation as the seasons change. Check [hours of operation](#).

Boaters that need an aquatic invasive species inspection need an [appointment and space is limited](#).

Rafting on the Truckee River: *commercial operators are closed for the season; raft launch at 64 Acres in Tahoe City is closed.*

Regional Bike Paths:

- North Lake Tahoe: Bike paths are open
- East Shore: East Shore Trail is open
- City of South Lake Tahoe paths and completed sections of the Greenway Trail are open
- South Stateline: Rabe Meadow, Nevada Beach, and Roundhill Pines paths are closed.
- West Shore:
- Incline Village:
- Truckee paved paths are open.

Tahoe Public Beaches: Beaches across the Lake Tahoe basin remain open. Check www.tahoepublicbeaches.org/ for more detailed information on each beach.

Donner Lake: Access to Donner Lake is not affected by the USFS closure as it is state and private land. Donner Lake public piers and boat launches are open. Donner Lake Memorial State Park is open for day-use and beach access only. The campground has closed for the season. A fire ban is in place prohibiting campfires and charcoal grills.

Local Recreation Areas

Douglas County Parks

Incline Village/Crystal Bay GID

North Tahoe PUD:

All parks and recreation areas are open.

- Tahoe Vista Recreation Area Boat Ramp (TVRA) season operations go to weekends only beginning Sunday, 9/13.
- The ramp will be open weekends only (Fri-Sun) on 9/18-9/20 and 9/25-9/27
- Sunday 9/27 will be the last day of TVRA Boat ramp operations
- Information resource: <https://northtahoeparks.com>

Tahoe City PUD:

- Parks and beaches are open; however, playgrounds, picnic tables and bbq's are closed.
- Lake Forest Campground is closed until further notice.
- Community Centers, Facilities, and Athletic Fields are closed.
- Masks/face-coverings are required in all indoor spaces and outdoors in public spaces when unable to maintain a physical distance of 6ft or more.
- 64 Acres is closed under USFS order.
- Tahoe City Golf Course: Open 9am – 8pm, 7 days a week.
- Tahoe City Winter Sports Park: Closed for Summer.
- All bike and pedestrian paths are currently all open other than isolated sections under USFS closure orders. Planned closure for Truckee River Multi-Use Trail September 22-25 for striping and sealing.

City of South Lake Tahoe:

- All parks, paths, and recreation amenities are open.
- The El Dorado Beach boat ramp is closed for the season
- Campground by the Lake will close October 1.

Ski Resorts

Kirkwood Mountain Resort:

- All mountain access (hiking, biking, etc.) is prohibited.
- No longer offering on-mountain smoking areas, asking guests to refrain from smoking of any kind.

Heavenly Mountain Resort:

- All mountain access (hiking, biking, etc.) is prohibited.
- No longer offering on-mountain smoking areas, asking guests to refrain from smoking of any kind.

Northstar:

- Northstar California Resort operates on private land. The resort is open for on-mountain sight-seeing, hiking and mountain biking Fridays-Sundays, with a closing day of Oct. 4. The resort's golf course is open daily.
- While this closure does not impact Northstar operations, the resort will prohibit on-mountain smoking and on-mountain designated smoking areas will not be offered. Smoking will be allowed in the base area at the Lower Village Lot designated smoking area.
- Website Links:
 - [General Information](#)
 - [Summer Activities](#)
 - [Summer Safety \(covid-19\)](#)

Squaw Valley:

- **Summer Operations Update:** Due to the temporary closure of Lake Tahoe Basin National Forest lands, the Granite Chief and Shirley Canyon trails based in Squaw Valley are currently closed. There are no other impacts to summer and fall operations at Squaw Valley. Visit squawalpine.com for updated hours of operations.
 - **Open:**
 - Lodging, shopping, activities and dining in The Village at Squaw Valley. Please visit squawalpine.com for hours of operation.
 - Tahoe Via Ferrata tours with Alpenglow Expeditions, located in The Village at Squaw Valley.
 - Golfing at The Resort at Squaw Creek
 - Area bike paths are open, and bike rentals are available Friday through Monday at Parallel Mountain Sports. Please visit squawalpine.com for hours of operation.
 - Hiking trails on Squaw Valley's private lands.
 - **Closed:**
 - Shirley Canyon, Granite Chief trails at Squaw Valley
 - Five Lakes Trail in Alpine Meadows.

- Public access at Alpine Meadows ski resort is currently closed to the public. This includes access from Sherwood and the backside of the mountain.

Truckee

What is closed in or near Truckee? Important closures include but are not limited to:

- Donner Summit (i.e. climbing, hiking)
- Jackass Trail
- 06 Road (includes Sawtooth, Big Chief, and Painted Rock)
- Prosser Creek Reservoir
- Boca Reservoir
- Stampede Reservoir
- Jackson Meadows
- Castle Peak
- [The Pacific Crest Trail \(PCT\)](#) where it passes through National Forest lands. This includes the popular segment from Sugar Bowl Resort to Squaw Valley as well as north of Highway 80.

The following trails and recreation areas in or near Truckee are still accessible as of 9/11/2020.

Additional updates and information on outdoor recreation can be found at

Truckee.com/KnowBeforeYouGo.

- Donner Lake is not U.S. Forest Service land. Access is not affected by the closure as it is state and private land, thus boating and swimming are allowed. Donner Lake beaches, public piers, and boat launches are not part of the Tahoe National Forest and are open.
- [Donner Lake Memorial State Park](#) is open for day-use and beach access only. The campground has closed for the season. A fire ban is in place prohibiting campfires and charcoal grills. The Visitor Center is open but the museum is closed.
- The Town of Truckee has [26 miles of paved paths](#) that are open (i.e. Trout Creek Trail, Legacy Trail).
- [Tahoe Donner Trails](#) via the Alder Creek Adventure Center are open.
- Waddle Ranch Preserve and Martis Valley Wildlife Area are open.
- Webber Lake Campground is open to campers with previous reservations. No open flames of any kind are permitted (including camp stoves).
- All land owned by the [Truckee Donner Land Trust](#) is open to non-motorized recreation. Access to Lower Carpenter Valley is closed. In places where TDLT owned lands adjoin U.S. Forest Service lands, note that U.S. Forest Service Lands are closed.

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